

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of processing an image comprising the steps of:

receiving data which has been transmitted from an apparatus which is connected through a network;

judging the format of the data which has been received;

executed the unexecuted processing(s) for the data in accordance with the data format thus judged; and  
outputting the data for which said processing has been executed.

2. An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein the data format to be judged is the data format which is instructed to said apparatus which is connected through said network.

3. An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein the data to be received is the data which is produced by analyzing the image.

4. An image processing method according to claim 1, wherein the received data is the data for which the processings up to a predetermined stage of the processings of a plurality of stages have been executed, and also the subsequent processings are executed for the received data in said processing step.

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received together with the instruction of the data  
format in said instruction receiving step; and

5       said method further comprises the reading step of  
starting the processing of reading out the image data  
in accordance with the instruction to read out the  
data.

9.   An image processing method according to claim  
7, wherein the processings of a plurality of stages  
10   include the data division of the image data and the  
character recognition.

10.   An image processing method according to claim  
7, wherein the processing of dividing the area of the  
15   image data is executed in said processing step.

11.   An image processing method according to claim  
7, wherein the binarization processing is executed for  
the text area of the image data in said processing  
20   step.

12.   An image processing method according to claim  
7, wherein the image data is the image data which has  
been read out through a scanner.

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13.   An image processing apparatus comprising:  
reception means for receiving data which has been

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transmitted from an apparatus which is connected through a network;

judgement means for judging the format of the data which has been received;

5 processing means for executing the unexecuted processing(s) for the data in accordance with the data format thus judged; and

output means for outputting the data for which said processing has been executed.

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14. An image processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the data format to be judged is the data format which is instructed to said apparatus which is connected through said network.

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15. An image processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the data to be received is the data which is produced by analyzing the image.

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16. An image processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the received data is the data for which the processings up to a predetermined stage of the processings in a plurality of stages have been executed, and said processing means executes the

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subsequent processings for the received data.

17. An image processing apparatus according to

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claim 13, wherein said processing means executes the character recognizing processing for the received data.

18. An image processing apparatus according to  
5 claim 13, further comprising area division correcting  
means for, for the data for which it is judged by said  
judgement means that the format of the received data is  
the data format which has been subjected to the area  
10 division processing, when the correction of the area  
division is instructed by a user, carrying out the  
correction of the area division.

19. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
instruction receiving means for receiving an  
15 instruction of a data format which has been issued from  
an apparatus which is connected through a network;

processing means for executing, for image data,  
the processings up to a predetermined stage of the  
processings having a plurality of stages in accordance  
20 with the data format; and

transmission means for transmitting the data which  
has been processed in said processing means to said  
apparatus.

20. An image processing apparatus according to  
25 claim 19, wherein said instruction receiving means  
receives, together with the instruction for the data

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format, an instruction to read out data, and

said image processing apparatus further comprises  
reading means for starting to read out the image data  
in accordance with the instruction to read out the  
5 data.

21. An image processing apparatus according to  
claim 19, wherein the processings of said plurality of  
stages include the area division of the image data and  
10 the character recognition.

22. An image processing apparatus according to  
claim 19, wherein said processing means executes the  
processing of dividing the area of the image data.  
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23. An image processing apparatus according to  
claim 19, wherein said processing means executes the  
binarization processing for the text area of the image  
data.  
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24. An image processing apparatus according to  
claim 19, wherein the image data is the image data  
which has been read out from a scanner.

25. An image processing system to which a first  
image processing apparatus and a second image  
processing apparatus are connected through a network,  
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wherein said second image processing apparatus executes, for image data, the processings up to a predetermined step of the processings of a plurality of stages in accordance with a predetermined data format to transmit the data for which the processings up to the predetermined stage have been executed to said first image processing apparatus; and

said first image processing apparatus which has received the data for which the processings up to the predetermined step have been executed judges the data format of the received data to execute the unexecuted processing(s) for the received data to output the data for which the unexecuted processing(s) has(have) been executed.

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26. An image processing system according to claim 25, wherein the predetermined data format is the data format which is instructed from said first image processing apparatus to said second image processing apparatus.

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27. An image processing system according to claim 25, wherein the processings of a plurality of stages include the area division of the image data and the character recognition.

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28. An image processing system according to claim

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25, wherein the processings up to a predetermined stage which are executed in said second image processing apparatus include the area division; and

the unexecuted processing(s) which is(are)  
5 executed in said first image processing apparatus include(s) the character recognition.

29. An image processing system according to claim  
25, wherein said first image processing apparatus, for  
10 the data for which it is judged by said judgement means that the format of the received data is the format of the data for which the area division processing has been executed, when the correction of the area division  
is instructed by a user, can carry out the correction  
15 of the area division.

30. An image processing system according to claim  
25, wherein said second image processing apparatus starts the processing of reading out the image data in  
20 accordance with an instruction to read out the data which has been issued from said first image processing apparatus.

31. An image processing system according to claim  
25, wherein said second image processing apparatus executes the binarization processing of the text area of the image data in accordance with the predetermined

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data format.

32. An image processing system according to claim  
25, wherein the image data is the image data which has  
5 been read out through a scanner.

33. A storage medium for storing therein an image  
processing control program which can be read out by a  
computer, said image processing control program  
10 comprising the steps of:

receiving data which has been transmitted from an  
apparatus which is connected through a network;

judging the format of the data which has been  
received;

15 executed the unexecuted processing(s) for the data  
in accordance with the data format thus judged; and

outputting the data for which said processing has  
been executed.

20 34. A storage medium according to claim 33,  
wherein the data format to be judged is the data format  
which is instructed to said apparatus which is  
connected through said network.

25 35. A storage medium according to claim 33,  
wherein the data to be received is the data which is  
produced by analyzing the image.

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36. A storage medium according to claim 33,  
wherein the received data is the data for which the  
processings up to a predetermined stage of the  
processings in a plurality of stages have been  
5 executed, and also the subsequent processings are  
executed for the received data in said processing step.

37. A storage medium according to claim 33,  
wherein the character recognizing processing is  
10 executed for the received data in said processing step.

38. A storage medium according to claim 33,  
further comprising the area division correcting step  
of, for the data for which it is judged in the  
15 judgement step that the format of the received data is  
the data format which has been subjected to the area  
division processing, when the correction of the area  
division is instructed by a user, carrying out the  
correction of the area division.

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39. A storage medium for storing therein an image  
processing control program which can be read out by a  
computer, said image processing control program  
comprising the steps of:

25 receiving an instruction of a data format which  
has been issued from an apparatus which is connected  
through a network;

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executing, for image data, the processings up to a predetermined stage of the processings having a plurality of stages in accordance with the data format; and

5           transmitting the data which has been processed in said processing step to said apparatus.

40. A storage medium according to claim 39, wherein in said instruction receiving step, an  
10       instruction to read out the data is received together with the instruction for the data format, and  
          said image processing control program further comprises the step of starting to read out the image data in accordance with the instruction to read out the  
15       data.

41. A storage medium according to claim 39, wherein the processings of said plurality of stages include the area division of the image data and the  
20       character recognition.

42. A storage medium according to claim 39, wherein the processing of dividing the area of the image data is executed in said processing step.  
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43. A storage medium according to claim 39, wherein the binarization processing for the text area

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of the image data is executed in said processing step.

44. A storage medium according to claim 39,  
wherein the image data is the image data which has been  
5 read out from a scanner.

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